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(*b*) what the various kinds of wild beasts thriving in South Kanara are;

(*c*) whether their number is increasing with the growth of reserve forests and their improvement in the district;

(*d*) what steps the Government have taken to check the increase and depredation of wild beasts; and

(*e*) what facilities are placed at the disposal of cultivators for checking such depredation?

A.—A statement is annexed.[a]

(*a*) No. Until 1916 the statistics were included in the Annual return showing the measures taken for the destruction of wild animals submitted to the Government by the Board of Revenue. In 1916 this Government at the instance of the Government of India ordered that the particulars showing the number of cattle killed by wild animals should be omitted from the return. The return was discontinued altogether from 1929 as it was considered that the figures given were unreliable.

(*b*) & (*c*) Wild animals which may be dangerous to life are tigers, panthers, and elephants; others that may be destructive of crops are deer, monkeys and pigs.

The Government are not aware whether the numbers of such animals are increasing.

(*d*) The Government offer and grant rewards for the destruction of certain wild animals. The hon. Member's attention is invited to Board's Standing Order No. 196.

(*e*) People are allowed to hunt certain species of wild animals in reserved forests during July to January subject to the condition that the previous permission of the Collector or the Revenue Divisional Officer is obtained and that an officer of the Forest Department is present at the time of the hunt. Gun licences are also granted by the District Magistrate at his discretion.

Secretariat

Appointment of outsiders as superintendents in the Secretariat.

* 130 *Q.*—B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that, in some of the vacancies that arose in the cadre of superintendents in some of the departments of the Secretariat during the past one year, outsiders working as head clerks or managers in city offices were appointed as superintendents in the Secretariat; and

(*b*) if so, the names of the persons so appointed with their qualifications and the pay drawn at the time of the appointment as superintendent?

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[a] Printed as Appendix VI on page 123 infra.

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A.—(a) Yes.

(b) The information is given below :—

Name of superintendent.	Qualification.	Pay drawn before appointment as superintendent.
		RS.
	Development Department.	
M.R.Ry. V. S. Mahadeva Ayyar Avargal, Manager, office of the Director of Industries.	B.A., Revenue Test, Criminal Judicial Test, Account Test, Survey Training, Revenue Inspector's Training, previous experience as clerk for nearly 12 years and as Superintendent for six months in the Secretariat.	240
	Finance (Marine) Section.	
M.R.Ry. K. Appuswami Ayyar, Head clerk, Presidency Port office.	S.S.L.C.; Book-keeping, Theory and Practice of Commerce (Inter.), Typewriting (Ele.), Account Test (First Class), P.W. Account Test, Port Department Test, 17 years' experience in various offices in the Marine department.	135

Local Fund Audit

Half-yearly audit of the accounts of taluk boards.

* 131 Q.—Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government contemplate introducing the system of half-yearly audit in the case of taluk boards as in the case of municipalities; and

(b) whether the Government contemplate including panchayat boards under Local Fund Audit?

A.—(a) No.

(b) The accounts of such panchayats as were union boards on the 25th August 1930 are audited by the Local Fund Audit department and the accounts of all other panchayats are inspected and checked by Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars. It is not proposed to make any change in the present procedure.

Mr. P. V. Krishnayya Choudari:—" May I know whether it is not advisable to extend the Local Fund Audit to the panchayat boards also? "

The hon. Mr. H. G. Stokes:—" It may be advisable, but the number of panchayats is so large and the cost involved may be so heavy for them to bear that it has not been considered necessary to extend this system to them also."